

FOLIO No. 1



The
Stanley
Brothers



Your Favorite Songs

Biography

On August 27, 1925, Carter Glen Stanley was born, the eighth child in a family of nine. His parents, being poor, lived on a small, rocky farm, located on a little creek known in that section of the country as Big Spraddle, in Dickinson County, Va. There Carter grew up just as the other hill country children. Carter's ambition was to be a carpenter, but that was soon forgotten. At five years of age, Carter walked one and one-half miles each way to school.

For seven years, he traveled the same path through the woods to the little one-room school. At about the age of ten, he became interested in old-time music. Being reared in a Christian home, his love for sacred songs grew; and, today, Carter will say the old hymns are the most beautiful of all. At 18, he joined the United States Air Force, and served 32 months through the war. Returning home in 1946, Carter worked in radio, singing solos, until Ralph returned from service. Then, on December 1, 1946, together they organized the band known as Stanley Bros.

Working six months with their own band, they were asked by Rich-R-Tone Record Co. to make records for them. At this time you can buy Stanley Bros. records at your nearest music store or record shop. The Stanley brothers are grateful to their thousands of friends who, by ordering their books and attending their personal appearances, make possible their success.

It gives me great pleasure to make these few remarks and I hope this book will bring happiness to you for a long time to come.

JAMES A. BAKER,

Agent for Stanley Bros.

Biography

Ralph Edmond Stanley, being a brother to Carter, was born February 25, 1927, on the same little farm on Big Spraddle Creek in Dickinson County, Va.

Ralph went to the same little one-room school building as Carter. Being different in some ways from his brother, his first and only ambition was to play the banjo. He and his brother started playing at the same time, and have been playing and singing together ever since, except when they were separated through the war. Ralph loves only old-time music, and the real old solo numbers come straight from the heart. Ralph was called into service in May, 1945, serving both in the United States and abroad. Returning home in September, 1946, he joined Carter who was working on a small station.

Soon the Stanley Bros. organized their own band. At first the going was hard, but the boys were determined to go on. After a few personal appearances, they were received so highly by their audiences they just had to go on.

In the past year, they have entertained thousands of their friends throughout the East, and hope to be doing the same for a long time to come. When you see the Stanley Bros. go up to them and shake hands, and talk with them, they love to make friends.

It is, indeed, a pleasure to work with, and for the Stanley Bros.

JAMES A. BAKER,

Agent for Stanley Bros.

PRETTY POLLY

Pretty Polly, Pretty Polly, come and take me unkind,
Polly, Oh Polly, come and take me unkind,
Come and sit beside me and let me tell you my mind.

Oh, my mind is to marry and never to part,
My mind is to marry and never to part;
The first time I saw you it wounded my heart.

Well Polly, Oh Polly, won't you come along with me,
Polly, Oh, Polly, won't you come along with me,
Before we get married, some pleasure to see.

He led her over mountains and valleys so deep,
He led her over mountains and valleys so deep,
Pretty Polly mistrusted and then began to weep.

Willie, Oh Willie, I'm afraid of your way,
Willie, Oh Willie, I'm afraid of your way,
The way you've been rambling you'll lead me astray.

Polly, Oh Polly, you're guessing about right,
Polly, Oh Polly, you're guessing about right,
Because I dug on your grave just about half of last night.

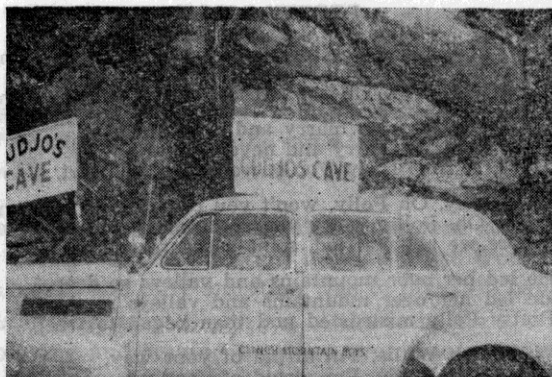
She knelt down before him pleading for her life,
She knelt down before him pleading for her life,
Let me be a single girl if I can't be your wife.

Polly, Oh Polly, that never can be,
Polly, Oh Polly, that never can be,
Your past reputation's been trouble to me.

He opened her bosom as white as any snow,
He opened her bosom as white as any snow,
He stabbed her to the heart and the blood did overflow.

He went down to the jail house and what did he say?
He went down to the jail house and what did he say?
I've killed Pretty Polly and trying to get away.

He got out on the ship with his heart full of sin,
He got out on the ship with his heart full of sin,
The ship struck a rock and Little Willie went in.



"Clinch Mountain Special"

GIRL BEHIND THE BAR

As I walked in the wayside Tavern
The smell of drink was in the air
I threw my money on the counter
This pretty maid was standing there.
My thoughts they drifted so far from me.
As I looked upon her smiling face
I knew she was my kind of woman
No one could ever take her place.
I said, when working hours are over
I would just love to see you home;
She said, Young man that is my pleasure,
And soon we found ourselves alone.
And then our arms went around each other,
I felt the knife stick in her back;
She turned and saw her lover running,
And said his name was Bar Room Jack.
She did not know her lover followed,
She did not know he was around;
Until the pain of death had struck her,
And now she sleeps beneath the ground.
As I sit alone tonight in prison,
My thoughts are of the one so fair
That I met that night in the wayside Tavern.
When the smell of drink was in the air.



Visiting famous cave in Kentucky

YOU ARE BEING WATCHED

As you travel that sinful pathway
Not knowing what to say or do,
Our Saviour watches from His mansions
Says, Come, ye weaklings unto me.

CHORUS

Our Saviour watches from His mansions,
Deeds on earth of you and me;
Says, I will bathe with the Holy Spirit
Your soul shall rest eternally.
Your friends will tell you they are righteous,
That they do not fear their King;
But when the pearly gates swing open
The stars will fall, the angels sing.
Now your journey it has ended,
You are resting up above
In that home of endless glory
Where there's everlasting love.

COME ALL YOU TENDER HEARTED

Come all you tender hearted,
Come listen one and all;
I'll tell you how it started,
Come listen one and all.

Last Wednesday night there was a light
Seen shining on the hill;
Their mother ran with all her might,
While everything was still.

She went into a neighbor's house
Some hundred yards away;
She sat down and talked with them
But did not mean to stay.

Don't stay too long, Mother, there
For we'll be lonesome here;
I'll give some liniment, she said,
Then I'll return again.

But when she started home again
Her house was in a flame;
She cried, Alas, my babes are gone,
And I'm the one to blame.

She bursted all the thunder then,
And the flames rolled o'er her head;
She cried, Alas how sad they sleep,
Wrapped up in a red-hot flame.

Their little bones lay on the ground
They both lay face to face,
Each other did entwine, each other did embrace.



At the Old Home Place (with Bernard Nunnely) in 1939

MOTHER NO LONGER AWAITS ME AT HOME

One night while the moon from heaven was shining
My mother was praying for me to come home;
She asked her dear Lord to watch o'er me out yonder
To send me back home to never more roam.

When I left my old home away back in the mountains
I said I'd return with honor and fame
But a young reckless heart turned wrong at the crossroads
Now as I go home I bring Mother's shame.

When I got to the place where I'd spent my childhood
The silvery moon was shining so bright
When I asked my dear friends to tell me of Mother,
They said she was called to Heaven last night.

She told them of how she was longing to see me
How lonely her home since I went away.
Says, darling repent and ask for forgiveness,
And meet Mother there in Heaven some day.

Mother has gone to live with the angels,
Her soul is at rest around the White Throne;
Now I have no one left here to advise me,
For Mother no longer awaits me at home.



Stanley Eros. looking into three states at
historic Cumberland Gap

LITTLE GLASS OF WINE

Come little girl, let's go get married,
I love you so great, how can you slight me;
I'll work for you both late and early,
At my wedding my little wife you'll be.
Oh Willie dear, let's both consider,
We're both too young to be married now;
When we're married, we're bound together,
Let's stay single just one more year.
He went to the ball where she was dancing,
A jealous thought came through his mind;
I'll kill that girl, my own true lover,
Before I'll let another man beat my time.
He went to the bar and he called her to him,
She said, Willie dear, what do you want with me,
Come and drink wine with the one that loves you,
More than anyone else in the world, said he.
While they were at the bar a-drinking,
That same old thought came through his mind;
He killed that girl, his own true lover,
He gave her poison in a glass of wine.
She laid her head over on his shoulder,
Said, Willie dear, please take me home,
That glass of wine that I've just dranken
Has gone to my head and got me wrong.
He laid his head over on the pillow,
Let me read you the law, let me tell you my mind;
Molly dear, I'm sorry to tell you
We both drank poison in a glass of wine.
They fold their arms around each other,
They cast their eyes into the sky;
Oh God, Oh God, ain't this a pity,
That we both true lovers are bound to die.

The Stanley Brothers



At Station Before Their Program